

ART AND ARTISTS IN NORTH CAROLINA

The art work in early colonial days and even in pre-revolution time consisted mainly of portrait work done either by visiting painters or by early artists who had studios in North Carolina. Many paintings were purchased in European countries. Some artists went to Europe to study; some stayed not to return as American artists. Whistler is included in that group.

There has been collected in North Carolina a considerable amount of work in the graphic arts—paintings, drawings, engravings, etchings, and sculpture work that was done by artists of recognition. Some of the best works from the early period are in private homes or ownership, in private collections in art galleries and museums, in college collections, and in State buildings. The one art that was found amost everywhere in the colonial homes was the portrait. Very famous portrait painters were John Singleton Copley (1737-1815), Benjamin West (1738-1820), Gilbert Stuart (1755-1821), James McNeill Whistler (1834-1903), and later Thomas Sully (1783-1872), Samuel F. B. Morse (1791-1872) and Eastman Johnson 1824-1906.)

Some early artists were attracted to Raleigh, the capital city, as the residence of State officials. Jacob Marling came in 1818 and produced some works that are still here. In the State Hall of History (Education Building) hangs his *Old State House* and also portraits of John Haywood and William Augustus Blount. William Garl Browne, an English Artist, opened a studio in Raleigh about 1860. He did many portraits. Among them now in the State Hall of History are those of General L. O. B. Branch, Major General Bryan Grimes, and Governor James Iredell. In the period 1880-1890, W. G. Randall did some paintings and portraits that one can now see in the State Hall of History. Among these are the *Three Confederates* and portraits of Charles M. Stedman and Alexander Boyd Andrews. Randall's pen and ink sketch of the *Joel Lane House* has been very popular. Sculpture works by recognized sculptors are owned by the State, and by many counties and cities. The listing of those on the State capitol grounds and a few of the memorials in the counties and cities illustrate this fact.

Within the last two or three decades, there has been a great revival in art in North Carolina, in production, in art consump-